

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 DHA-02 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-08
EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /098 W
-----071641Z 058120 /53

O 071540Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3719
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1409

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 1800

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, CI
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: AGENDA ITEM 5, CHILE

REF: (A) GENEVA 1575 (B) STATE 49702

1. SUMMARY: WE CONSIDER THE DRAFT UNHRC RESOLUTION
ON CHILE DEFICIENT IN ITS LACK OF BALANCE AND URGE THAT
U.S. DEL NO CO-SPONSOR IT. END SUMMARY.

2. WE REGRET THAT WE DID NOT HAVE AN EARLIER OPPORTUNITY
TO COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON CHILE.
IF MATTER HAVE NOT GONE TOO FAR FOR RECONSIDERATION,
WE HOPE DELEGATION AND DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE INTO AKCOUNT
FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS WITH RESPECT TO TEXT IN GENEVA 1575.

3. IN ITS GENERAL ASSERTIONS AND SPECIFIC PHRASEOLOGY,
THIS DRAFT RESOLUTION APPEARS TO BE AT LEAST AS FAR-
REACHING AS ANY PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED ON CHILE IN THE UN.
IT IS DEVOID OF ANY SENSE OF BALANCE. WE SEE NO RECOGNITION IN
IT OF THE APPRECIABLE PROGRESS WE HAVE REPORTED DURING THE PAST
YEAR, PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS THE RELEASE OF 2700 POLITICAL
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PRISONERS; THE ABSENCE, THIS YEAR, OF REPORTS OF NEW CASES OF
TORTURE, OR ARBITRARY DETENTION; AND THE VIRTUAL CESSATION, SO
FAR THIS YEAR, OF MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES. (IN THIS CONNECTION,
WE SUGGEST THAT OUR DELEGATION NOT MENTION THE INCREASING ASSERTI-
VENESS OF THE CHILEAN JUDICIARY -- PARA 3, STATE 49702. IT MIGHT
SNUFF OUT A PROMISING DEVELOPMENT).

4. LAST AUTUMN, WHEN THESE TRENDS WERE LESS CLEARLY APPARENT, THE USG ABSTAINED IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON A RESOLUTION SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR TO, ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT Milder THAN, THE ONE CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION. AS WE RECALL IT, THE U.S. DELEGATE CITED THE LACK OF BALANCE IN THE RESOLUTION, THE INFERENCE OF POLITICIZATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE, AND THE UNDESIRABLE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF PROCEEDING DOWN THE PATHS OPENED UP BY PARA 4 OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION. THE PARAGRAPH, AND PARAS 5 AND 6 OF THE CURRENTLY PROPOSED RESOLUTION, CONSTITUTE AN OPEN-ENDED INVITATION TO MEMBER STATES AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES TO TAKE STEPS THEY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE TO REDRESS THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CHILE. HAS THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERED WHERE THIS PROPOSAL, GENERALLY APPLIED, MIGHT LEAD?

5. AS THE DEPARTMENT KNOWS, THIS EMBASY HAS NOT BEEN LOATH TO CRITICIZE CHILEAN HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES OR TO SUGGEST STEPS WHICH MIGHT BE TAKEN TO LET THE CHILEANS KNOW HOW WE FEEL. BUT WE ARE BOUND TO SAY THAT THE EFFECT OF AGAIN SINGLING OUT CHILE FOR POSSIBLE SANCTIONS-- WHEN SCORES OF OTHER COUNTRIES ARE WORSE, AND UNREGENERATE, OFFENDERS -- WILL BE STRENGTHEN THE VIEW WIDELY HELD HERE THAT, NO MATTER WHAT THE CHILEANS DO TO MODERATE THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES, THE UN'S RESISTANCE WILL BE IMPLACABLE, IF THE OBJECTIVE IS IMPROVEMENT OF THE SITUATION, THIS IS NOT THE BEST WAY TO GET IT.

6. THE RATIONALE GIVEN BY THE US DEL FOR U.S. COSPONSORSHIP IS THAT IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT IN MAINTAINING A MODERATE TEXT. IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW THIS TEXT CAN BE CONSIDERED MODERATE, CONFIDENTIAL

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OR HOW MUCH MORE THE CUBANS COULD REASONABLY EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO INCLUDE IN IT AT THIS TIME. WE CAN UNDERSTAND THAT, WITH OUR CURRENT EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, IT WOULD LOGICAL TO TOUGHEN OU POSITION ON CHILE IN THE THE U.N. THIS COULD LEAD US TO SUPPORT RATHER THAN ABSTAIN ON THE RESOLUTION NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION.

7 HOWEVER, OUR CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE RESOLUTION WILL BE PARTICULARLY NOTED BY THE GOC. IT WILL BE RESENTED. IT WILL STRENGTHEN THE TENDENCY WHICH ALREADY EXISTS HERE TO DEMONSTRATE CHILE'S SOLIDARITY WITH ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND URUGUAY IN DEFYING THE U.S. ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES. WE HAD THOUGHT THAT WE HAD PASSED THE STAGE OF ACTION AND ENRAGED REACTION WHEN WE COMPLETED THE PROCESS OF CUTTING OFF BILATERAL U.S. AID TO CHILE. BUT CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THIS RESOLUTION COULD HELP TO REVIVE IT. IF IT IS NOT TOO LATE, WE URGENTLY REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT TO INSTRUCT THE DELEGATION NOT TO COSPONSOR THE RESOLUTION. POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, HUMAN RIGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANTIA01800
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770077-1166
Format: TEL
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770386/aaaacxpf.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ba4b81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 GENEVA 1575, 77 STATE 49702
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3186302
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: AGENDA ITEM 5, CHILE
TAGS: SHUM, CI, UNHRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ba4b81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009